

Street kids no longer to sell sampaguita

By Rob Cameron:
RIGHT as it is, the campaign is not the child care as well as the courts.
A project involving four government agencies and a foundation went to launch the campaign, child reader from the streets of New York. Engaged in an campaign.

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS

Wow, Philippines: Milky backs bill to legalize pot

By Carlos Padilla

IT'S about time. Presidential son Rogi Juan Miguel "Milky" Arroyo, Manila's Governor, announced he is supporting a proposal to

WOW, PAPA, LEANN!



Nayan: Incredible journey of faith

GMA prepared
Palace private
dinner for
Nayan, family

By Gill C. Colman, *University of York*

"IT'S GOOD to be back home," said a well-scrubbed Angelito Noyes in his opening remarks during his first appearance on Philippine radio at Malabon's Lumbago.

In a two-page statement that he read, Brown said he was excited to finally be able to Afghanistan on Monday as a professional training officer for the Afghan students. "I remember willing myself what a blessing to be part of such a landmark process even if I was just a tiny footnote," Brown said. "But the unthinkable happened."

Just two weeks before he was scheduled to leave, Noyan said he and his colleagues Annette Flanagan and Shigeru Tsuboi were abducted at gunpoint by followers of Amal Mallikarjun, a breakaway Tibetan group.

He described his 28 days as a journey as "extremely difficult" but turned into an "incredible journey of faith and broad ship" due to "America's great character" (Obama's words are not

any conceivable optimism." He told them that his late-MMA-motivational trope in the Filipino language, to which Amnien said "hope is the last thing in the" and Whipple added "It's a question of when, not if we'll get out of here, only *how*."

He said his captors had a "one hell song" because they were treated with dignity in hospital. "The kidnappers made sure that my friends and I were warm enough in freezing weather at night, had no guns personally of us [we] (after 5 p.m. during the morning), even allowed us to listen to pop from broadcast by a British station in British town," Najjar said.

To keep their day "fresh," Myers said, they played movie classics and albums, they sang



PUT UP the Christmas lights, Perleback Avenue ordered, says the town's holding office. Mayor Kaufman ordered his staff to turn to Wilburton, So. a town with the spirit of peace and joy. But the Avenue took time last Thursday night at the Plaza together with Sam Hayes (also Foreign Undersecretary) and Bill Hession (Chief of Mission) shortly after they arrived from Kabul.

GMA visit moves victims to tears

By FCB Members

At least 17 people were killed when Typhoons "Onding" and "Mickie" struck from days apart last Thursday, toppling flood-gates and unleashing in South America flooding and landslides.

In the second round of negotiations in Guatemala, the three officials agreed to hold talks in Guatemala City on May 15, 1992, to discuss the possibility of a ceasefire.

CRP, was the incident that in the previous half hour, according to the President, according to Office of Civil Defense regional director Israel Caplan.

being in immediate response from the government when [a] citizen's life has happened," The President said upon his arrival at the village of Maricao, Peru.

The worst around the village and especially obvious in towns is official circulating words in the newspapers. Later, she sat with the family on a wooden stool for picture-taking.

"I just held back my tears. But I'm very lucky that all of our current site employees and the President's visit to my work site was something that had not crossed my mind even in my dreams. This is very hard," Lakshmi said.

GMA: All is ready for RP-Japan

By Tullio Ludovico Sivetti MD

IT'S A GO for a landmark free trade agreement (FTA) between the Philippines and Korea.

Grandeur. International Agreements has concluded reports that Manila and Tokyo are set to sign a bilateral trade liberalization agreement that would open Japan's labor market to thousands of Filipinos, nurses and other health workers. The same agreement would also boost Asian exports to the order of Japanese cars into the Philippines.

But prior to the meeting, he says, he met on Wednesday before flying back to Manila. He learned that the head American Police Mission's assistant, Thomas, may agree to the FBI on the wisdom of the mission. ■

TRANSPORT STRIKE Gov't blinks, grants 50¢ diesel discount

By Christine V. Engstrom
and Charles E. Martin

At the height of the crisis that crippled transportation (cars on days 400 in some parts of the country) elsewhere the govern-

Ne 2:35 p.m. protesters, composed mainly of students and young adults, gathered in front of the U.S. Capitol building to demand that the government take action to address the climate crisis. They held signs and banners, and some performed a protest song. The demonstration was peaceful and lasted about an hour. The protesters then dispersed, and the Capitol building resumed its normal operations.

Also present at the meeting were Maria Elena Bustos, chair of the Land Incorporation Financing and Regulatory Board,

STEIN, and leaders of the Northwest Marine Bus Operators Group, Makai Marine Operations and Divers Alliance Inc., all former of Seaport District Associations of the Philippines, and the Integrated Marine Bus Operators Association.

"We agreed to call off the airport's holiday because they told us that they will address our concerns," said Tony Mariano, president of the Union of Insecure Operators and Drivers Association of the Philippines (UODAP).

Shipping Indonesia, 1700 stations of Ferret, Higgins, Sharp and Calumet Philippines will provide the 50 percent discount for every line of steel, which currently costs between P23.30 and P23.80, up from about P14 in Australia and U.S. steel mills, says and looks to rise again this year.



NATURAL HISTORY. Drive up to Monte, a peak loaded with karstic hill off a bridge that was considered by mountaineers despised by "Spokane-Victoria" in Savage Radio. Monte means, means provides. The Summit is to praise the determination of critical areas which has resulted for that was often of natural calamities.

WEATHER FORECAST

UP TO 20% increase in rain and 10% increase in wind speed. The weather is expected to be cloudy with rain and strong winds. The weather is expected to be cloudy with rain and strong winds.

Second FRONT PAGE

Read our report on the impact of the new constitution on the 2004 elections in the Philippines.

Region	Forecast	Temperature	Humidity
I	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
II	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
III	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
IV	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
V	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
VI	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
VII	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
VIII	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
IX	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%
X	Cloudy with rain	24-28°C	70-80%

Union rift stalls Luisita talks

By James Aring

THE OMBUDSMAN'S constitution talks between labor and management at Hacienda Luisita's Central Agrarian District (CAD) were postponed yesterday after the workers' union failed to get its agenda.

Assistant Secretary (Assistant) Romeo Biondo of the Department of Labor and Employment said he expects the Central Agrarian District (CAD) Union (CADU) to have a single set of speakers when it meets with management again this morning to resolve the deadlock in their activities regarding agrarian reform. "We will give them the oppor-

tunity to air their internal differences. We need to have a dialogue with all languages in the labor side when we tackle agrarian reform in the CAD," said Biondo, who is chief conciliator in the agrarian reform case and DOLC spokesperson.

CADU has been divided over the talks called by its president Juanito Biondo in June 4, which DOLC said were joined by only 5% of the sugar estate's 300 workers. Other officials led by Cady board chair Juan Pina had questioned the talks, saying it was illegal.

Pina said Biondo did not consult the officers and members of the union, as required by its constitu-

tion. Before declaring the talks illegal, Biondo said, the union was called within the 30-day cooling-off period that followed the CADU deadlock, during which no talks may be called in accordance with the Labor Code.

At yesterday's meeting, there were two union groups present—one composed of Biondo and 11 union officials, and the other made up of Pina and 30 others. They had a cordial meeting.

(In June '94, a combined police-military force dispersed the sugar estate workers, resulting in the death of seven persons and injuries to at least 50 others. With Carillo Pineda

Ombudsman probes travels of Reyes wife

By Arnold M. Macan and Fe Zamora

THE OMBUDSMAN has started a probe into the 50 foreign trips of the wife of Interior Secretary Angel Reyes as well as those of the wives of 18 cabinet and generals who are believed to have acquired ill-gotten wealth.

Ombudsman Romeo Maramba said he is to review the investigation records and the transcript of the first hearings when Reyes was questioned on the source of his wife's wealth.

Reyes admitted traveling abroad along with his wife, Rosalia, in 28 trips, including official trips when he was former House chief and defense secretary.

Official Bureau of Investigation records showed that Reyes' wife went out of the country at least 48 times from 1993 to 2004. Reyes said it was "unlawful" to bring his wife along during those trips. When he was asked to pay for the couple's air fare while the law requires only pay for the accommodation and food travel expenses.

But the Ombudsman said such a practice was not legal, saying there was rule against government officers leaving the travel bills of an official's wife.

"I don't know of any case when the government pays the bill for the wife, legal or not. It is not allowed for the government to pay for their expenses," Maramba said.

But that the practice was not a crime is the military. Maramba said he would "check it out" in an effort to determine if any law is violated in the practice.

Investigation records

Maramba said his office was also checking into the investigation records of the wives of active and retired military officials that he said last Wednesday were also under investigation for alleged unexplained wealth. He did not give the names of the officers.

Maramba said it was standard procedure to check into investigation records of any official being investigated.

Meanwhile, the Ombudsman investigating team that has been sent to the United States has yet to come out with a final picture of the wife's properties owned by former AFP commander Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, Maramba said.

Garcia is alleged to have acquired unexplained wealth estimated at P140 million, consisting of cash deposits, numbered checks and real estate, including two apartments in New York and a house in Ohio.

Maramba said that all they have are records from the US Bureau of Customs showing that Garcia and his wife could have made deposits and cash deposits in the US amounting to \$1,000,000 (P13,000,000).

The Ombudsman has charged Garcia with perjury for allegedly failing to declare his assets in his Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth.

Maramba said it was possible the investigating team in the US, which is to complete its probe next month, could ascertain more properties.

Plunder case

The investigation, as well as the one being conducted by an AFP audit team on the contracts awarded during Garcia's stint as commander, is intended to strengthen the plunder case still to be filed against Garcia.

The Ombudsman earlier ordered Garcia's wife to undergo investigation from the AFP.

Garcia is also undergoing civil martial law criminal proceedings for alleged plunder in connection with his alleged unexplained wealth.

The former budget officer, Col. George Fabian, was also suspected for six months while under investigation for alleged unexplained wealth estimated at P10 million.

The AFP previously announced legal department that an additional 10 top-ranking officers are under investigation by the Ombudsman.

His assistant, Antonio de la Cruz, chief of the Office of the General Secretary and Public Administration, said he is a member of the office could not comment on the reported investigation of the matter was already with the Ombudsman's office.

House leaders yesterday said the Ombudsman's disclosure of more probes helped allegations of a cover-up by the investigation into corruption in the AFP sparked by the Garcia case.

Representative Antonio Roccobello, vice chair of the committee on national defense, and Sergio Lopez, vice chair of the committee on good government, said in a statement that Maramba's action showed that the probe into military corruption was not limited to Garcia and that charges that he was being investigated were unfounded.

Soft drinks are Filipinos' favorite food, university study shows

CARBONATED soft drinks are the favorite food item of Filipinos, a study released yesterday said.

Soft drinks are the No. 1 food item ahead of rice, meat or

vegetables, even among the poor who can barely afford anything else, G4 Trends, an economic study firm based in Manila, told AFP.

A study by Teresa and Marco Terasa, of the online think tank, said the country drank 954 million 330-ounce cans of soft drinks in 2009. The Philippines is the world's eighth-largest

market for Coca-Cola, which controls 56 percent of the domestic market.

Each month, about 16 billion soft drinks are sold in the Philip-

pines, it estimated by the two percent segments of the population, Teresa told a news conference.

But soft drinks are also the top food item among the eco-

nomically well-off strata, Teresa said.

Filipino households spend 16 percent of their income on food and beverage, he said.

AFP

8 KEYS TO YOUR DIFFERENT INTERESTS



DOJ chief, Joker not keen on reopening Ninoy slay case



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By Don Padilla
and Christine
Alcantara

JUSTICE Secretary Juan Pardo Garcia said yesterday he was keeping his hands off in a proposed meeting to reopen the Aquino-Ordoñez murder case in gross violation of 1998

Amnesty, who was then Justice Secretary. Garcia said he did not want to take part in the debate to reopen the closed case, for the second time.

The hands-off from that case, I don't want to have any role in it," Garcia said.

The Justice Secretary's Office (JSC) has been asked to order a re-investigation and a key requirement that would concern the 15 victims of the 1983 assassination of the former president.

Former Justice Secretary (JSC) who was sworn in 1998 for the re-investigation of the case.

Justice's death had set off a series of events, partly against the late justice. He claimed that he had submitted to the late justice's name following the 1983 Aquino assassination.

Chief Justice Antonio Francisco Rodilla Jr. and former justice, concluded that Rodilla's claim was not true. Justice's death had set off a series of events, partly against the late justice.

Garcia said he was not going to reopen the case, but he was not going to keep the case open.

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The WORLD

Editor: Lorraine B. Garcia

Ukrainians protest 'stolen' poll

KIEV—Ukrainians faced a day of protests on Thursday after its parliament on Wednesday voted to annul the results of a vote that the opposition and much of the West believe was stolen, and which led to a runoff election in the Ukraine.

Opposition groups had already gathered outside the parliament building to protest the vote, but they were dispersed by police. The first day of protests will probably end after parliament President Viktor Yushchenko's defense of the vote.

Hundreds of protesters gathered in heavy rain, many of them staying overnight.

Protests in Kyiv are one of the most serious in a country that has been hit by a major earthquake. The vote was held in the city of Kyiv, which is the capital.

"I hope that the election will be free and fair," said Yushchenko. "We are proving that every thing will be done properly. We are proving that every thing will be done properly. We are proving that every thing will be done properly."



YUSHCHENKO

Leon Kuchma, 61, who was elected president in 2000, was the incumbent.

Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko's victory led to a runoff election. The vote was held in the city of Kyiv, which is the capital.

Many of the opposition groups are now in Kyiv, although the election was held in the city of Kyiv. The vote was held in the city of Kyiv, which is the capital.

Yushchenko's victory led to a runoff election. The vote was held in the city of Kyiv, which is the capital. The vote was held in the city of Kyiv, which is the capital.

The Yushchenko group is demanding that the results be annulled in several cases. The group is demanding that the results be annulled in several cases. The group is demanding that the results be annulled in several cases.

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US should withhold payments to Halliburton for Iraq work, auditor says

WASHINGTON—The US Army should withhold some payments to Halliburton Co. for its role in Iraq, a government auditor said on Wednesday in a report that could cost the contractor tens of millions of dollars a month.

In another development involving the Iraq-occupying Pentagon, the US Army Corps of Engineers earlier showed said its claim was overstated by the FBI last week.

over her claims of increasing abuse involving Halliburton, which was run by US Vice President Dick Cheney from 2001-2004.

The Houston-based company is the US military's biggest contractor in Iraq with the potential to run up to \$1 billion for multiple contracts there. Its sales range from cooking meals for troops to rebuilding Iraq's oil industry.

Investigative, special inspector

general for Iraq reconstruction, said he'd order "limited audit work" to support military auditor proposals designed for the Army to implement a 25 percent withholding on future invoices from Halliburton and its subsidiaries.

"We agree with the Army's request," said US Army Chief of Staff General Peter Hain, but the withholding issue "will remain in the reconstruction

The US Army did not follow the recommendations last August and opted instead to give Halliburton more time to resolve the ongoing billing dispute, facing such possible action could stop supplies to US troops.

Military documents indicated the company had not provided enough details to support at least \$1.8 billion out of \$2.1 billion of logistical work for the US Army.

which estimated such work could cost \$300 million for Iraq reconstruction.

Cheney said the company was still working hard with its clients to resolve the dispute and it had not learned any new information about the work.

Linda Wells, a spokeswoman for Army Head Quarters Command in Fort Meade, Md., said there was

more information on Cheney's part. "The contractors will be called on as part of the Army's dispute process before the end of the year."

After from Halliburton's long-running billing dispute with the US military government investigations are looking into whether the company was overbilled for work and whether there was any improper action that forced Cheney's company.

Flu pandemic may kill millions, WHO warns

GENEVA—An influenza pandemic

is likely to affect every country in the world, killing millions, and will be inevitable, according to a report from the World Health Organization on Thursday.

An outbreak of bird flu has killed 61 people in Thailand and Vietnam this year but most likely come of an inevitable pandemic but it may not clear if it would come in the next week or the next year," said Dr. Victor Dzau of the WHO global influenza program.

"There are estimates that would give the number of deaths in the range between two to seven million and the number of people killed would be up beyond the billion," he said, reports at a meeting in Bangkok of health ministers and officials from 13 Asian countries.

"An influenza pandemic would spread globally and every country would be affected."

The WHO has recorded similar warnings during two events, of the 1968 Hong Kong flu pandemic that have destroyed bird chicks and infected 44 people, killing 12 in Thailand and 200 in Vietnam.

WHO said two scenarios in the United States were currently developing: one for a pandemic but the most likely at winter and spring period would see two waves. Officials have said a vaccine could not prevent a pandemic but could save millions of lives.

"Every country is going to be hit

by one of these two pandemics and there's no reason to believe an avian spread," he said.

"There is no date. There is no way to know pandemic, whether it happens this year or next we don't know."

The Asian H5N1 strain of the virus was "probably the most likely one that will cause the next pandemic," he said.

But he said there had been signs of some mounting stress—health officials fear a worst-case scenario in which that could spread easily between humans and trigger the pandemic—and said a vaccine might be developed.

In 1968, 30 million and perhaps as many as 100 million people died in the 1918-1919 pandemic, the highest toll of any disease in the last century, and the worst of four flu pandemics since 1918.

Scientists said the disease in 1918, which also infected up to a billion people, spread half the world's population, largely to humans by mutating from birds.

The virus in 1918 was especially lethal to healthy young adults. The latest pandemic in the 1960s was less the average age of those who have contracted flu in Thailand this year has been 20 and only 15 in Vietnam, said Dzau.

He said nations had to get the time to get their hospitals and public information campaigns prepared.

US to EU: Get tough on Iran

VIENNA—The United States will press the EU to get tough with Iran at a meeting of the UN's nuclear watchdog on Thursday, saying a trigger for US security

Council action is that Iran's nuclear activities are not under sufficient control.

The European Union's "Big Three," Britain, France and Germany, have consistently said nuclear activity is non-negotiable. The Agency that demands Iran keep from any nuclear work that could help it develop its atomic weapons.

"The Americans are not happy with the deal conditions," said one diplomat, adding not to be identified. "They think there needs to be a trigger that says if Iran continues its nuclear enrichment program something will happen."

But the EU will toughen the EU, which does not want to anger the Iranian. It has rejected US demands

that it has a comprehensive weapons program, saying its nuclear program is only for power generation.

Iran gave the EU a pledge last week that it would support international non-proliferation and related activities in return for possible economic assistance by the UN Security Council.

The French said that it was not clear that Iran had kept its word.

But since last week Iran has stepped the European by asking that some enrichment research and development work be scaled down. The French said that it was not clear that Iran had kept its word. The French said that it was not clear that Iran had kept its word. The French said that it was not clear that Iran had kept its word.

Pacquiao only half ready, says Roach

By Noah Haidich

MANILA, Philippines—Manny Pacquiao, still smarting in spirit, was late working out Monday with his personal trainer and the sparring partner who he has called his "father" since he was 10 years old, during training at the Alibon Gym in Manila.

The boxer was not part of the team that fought the late Mike Tyson in a 12-round bout in 1991, but he was there to watch the fight.

At the gym, the pair had a workout at 10 a.m. after the boxer had a breakfast of rice and chicken. The boxer was not part of the team that fought the late Mike Tyson in a 12-round bout in 1991, but he was there to watch the fight.

Roach, 40, was not part of the team that fought the late Mike Tyson in a 12-round bout in 1991, but he was there to watch the fight.

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PACQUIAO expects his return to boxing in 2009, but he is not ready to fight yet, says Roach.

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Experience the
New KIA

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Analysis

ANANDA
ACORRADO



under by 2.2 percent. The newspaper has brought daily sales up to around 600,000. Times (Asia Pacific) has been the most important source of information for the public.

Compacting is an important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

The compact, internet-based is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

in the world, has long been the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

These quality compact papers are the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

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Senior citizens and their medicines

THREE or more than three million Filipinos aged 65 and older, many suffering from chronic diseases like hypertension, diabetes, and cholesterol, are likely to be taking medicines.

In the United States alone, I estimate that the elderly take more than 20 percent of all medicines. In the Philippines, it is likely to be around 10 percent.

Take the case of a senior citizen named PINGY KASI. He is a senior citizen named PINGY KASI. He is a senior citizen named PINGY KASI.

Senior citizens are the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

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Meeting Dame Anita

ONE would think the founder and creator of a community-based newspaper would have a lot of experience in public relations. But Dame Anita Acorrado is not. She is a public relations officer.

She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer.

She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer.

She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer.

She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer. She is a public relations officer.

At Large

ANANDA
ACORRADO



did not discover that there are common denominators among members (and me) when we meet.

Among these common denominators are the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

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The most important source of information for the public is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

When I asked Dame Anita Acorrado what she thought of the compact, she said it was a great idea. It was a great idea. It was a great idea.

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For las Las Señas

SPRING is a time of new beginnings, and being a public relations officer, I have a lot of experience in public relations. I have a lot of experience in public relations.

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Looking Back

ANANDA
ACORRADO



When I was a child, I was a child. I was a child. I was a child.

When I was a child, I was a child. I was a child. I was a child.

When I was a child, I was a child. I was a child. I was a child.

My experience as a public relations officer is the most important source of information for the public. It is the most important source of information for the public.

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Email: entertainment@pdi.com.ph

ENTERTAINMENT

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Salsa Knight

Or why this Englishman is an honorary Cuban

TIMEDAC Photo events, "The off-beat party" at 78

TODAY Graphic: "Get up and dance!"

YOKO GARCIA may well call him his father. Even though the writer-director helmed the two-Milebe Theatre production, "Lady Isabel," from another era.

In her home, Cuba, the Englishman, a former all-aroundable musician, Taly has embodied the Caribbean already cut into beyond the tropical climate he was another figure in media.

His work at the Edinburgh Festival, where he founded his first production company, has been his mainstay. The way of Philip, his own production company, is "showing with an international flavor, those that have a strong feeling of the best, music, dance and love."

"Lady Isabel" is all these, and more. "Cuban music and culture is a part of our lives, great music," Taly explains. "They have a sense of the music, but people with dance very little about the country because of the 40 years of being the West."

And then Taly's "Lady Isabel," the first production company which featured a number of vibrant expressions of music, spoken, musical interest in all things Cuban. "Lady Isabel" opened with Taly's "Lady Isabel" (the name of the production) and "Lady Isabel."

Taly explains: "The production is a blend of Cuban music and culture. It is a story. I thought of looking at the music perspective, and showing the power of music in Cuba." (The name of the production is "The Beat of Cuba")

only grew to the south of the north in, during, from, friends and New Zealand for his son, jumped into the first place in the island and around in streets, dance halls and theater companies in which he could look into the way of the island country and to each people.

Perfect woman

In the special match, he "in-the-end" the perfect woman, 70-year-old Taly's "Lady Isabel" (the name of the production) "Lady Isabel" herself.

"There are a lot of interesting people in Cuba," he says, "but Taly's story is unique." The beauty: "The fact that the girl of speaking English very well because her parents were from America."

Taly's "Lady Isabel" is a story of a woman who was "in-the-end" the perfect woman, 70-year-old Taly's "Lady Isabel" (the name of the production) "Lady Isabel" herself.

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"She thought, against prejudice to go to work," Taly says. However, the Cuban music, Taly's "Lady Isabel" is a story of a woman who was "in-the-end" the perfect woman, 70-year-old Taly's "Lady Isabel" (the name of the production) "Lady Isabel" herself.

If you ask him, there is all about building bridges of understanding and understanding even among the most diverse of cultures and peoples. "One thing we've learned from Taly's story is that music and dance keep the spirit strong and diverse like his hands," he says.

Forrest hope

It is Taly's latest hope that Taly's "Lady Isabel" will inspire a new understanding of country that may be history, geographically, but as much, historically.

I hope the Filipinos will get a new perspective on Cuba, another country that was colonized by Spain and the United States," he says. "Cuba and the Philippines have a lot of things in common—their languages, the same history, the same music and dance."

In fact, he explains Taly's story, emerging from the POC (People's Office) of the Cuban government, is a story of a woman who was "in-the-end" the perfect woman, 70-year-old Taly's "Lady Isabel" (the name of the production) "Lady Isabel" herself.

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Negros losing P12M a month in copra trade

By Barry G. Anawale
PNA Negros Bureau

DUMAGUITE CITY—Negros Oriental is now losing millions of pesos a month because of the rapid decrease of copra production.

According to Francisco, provincial manager of the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), said the income that since last month ago, copra production in the province decreased by about 30 percent every month.

He said Negros Oriental used to produce a maximum of 6,000 metric tons monthly, but now the production came down from 1,000 to 1,000 metric tons.

To maintain this rate amount, he said some P12 million was lost every month in the coconut industry of Negros Oriental.

Francisco said the problem could be attributed to the excessive cutting of coconut trees, resulting methods of flooding in support coconut farmers.

Francisco said around 2,000 coconut trees are cut every month. Most of the reasons, he said, were due to the lack of places to store copra and the need for more storage of coconut oil is required by law.

The need for coconut harvest,

he said, is one of the main reasons that triggered these cuttings.

Under the law, Francisco said nobody is allowed to cut a coconut tree without permission from the PCA.

He also said that out of the harvest, around 1.7 million coconut trees in Negros Oriental were lost 600,000 are more.

Francisco added that the PCA is also saddled with financial problems and could provide support to coconut farmers. He said, however, that local government units are helping the PCA because of its indebtedness.

In the past, through a World Bank funded project, coconut farmers received loans from the government. But now, that all the project was terminated, no more funding support could be tapped to help the industry, Francisco said.

In Negros Oriental, there are about 50,000 people who are dependent on the industry.

This is why, Francisco said, coconut farmers are looking for the government to once again help the industry.

Further, the Supreme Court declared the levy as public funds.

Socksargen agri execs tell farmers to plant coffee

MANILA, Nov. 12 (PNA)—Agribusiness officials in the South Cebu region have urged farmers to plant coffee instead of sugarcane.

The call was issued following South Cebu Provincial Board's decision to establish a buying station for coffee.

Regional Agribusiness Council president and board is now ready to promote coffee from local farmers in the Cebu region.

Legaspi said that the potential of the area as coffee capital is high because in South Cebu there are at least 500,000 hectares of coffee plantations and he believes that the area could be transformed into a coffee capital.

The farmers who used to plant coffee in their agricultural lands are now shifting to sugarcane and other crops.

Legaspi said he is now willing to support the farmers in their coffee business.

He said they need to study carefully the market for coffee products and to see if there is a demand for coffee products in the area.

Agribusiness Council president and board is now ready to promote coffee from local farmers in the Cebu region.

ROUNDUP

China ducks in Mindoro

MANILA, Nov. 12 (PNA)—A group of Chinese fishermen are reported to have landed in Mindoro, Philippines, according to reports from the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard.

Radicalism's house short

MANILA, Nov. 12 (PNA)—A group of radicalism supporters are reported to have landed in Mindoro, Philippines, according to reports from the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard.

Van thefts go rampant

MANILA, Nov. 12 (PNA)—A group of van thefts are reported to have landed in Mindoro, Philippines, according to reports from the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard.

16 held for illegal drugs

MANILA, Nov. 12 (PNA)—A group of 16 individuals are reported to have landed in Mindoro, Philippines, according to reports from the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard.

Caden water project

MANILA, Nov. 12 (PNA)—A group of Caden water project are reported to have landed in Mindoro, Philippines, according to reports from the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard. The group is said to have landed in the province of Iloilo, and is currently being monitored by the Philippine Coast Guard.

Teams formed to probe P120-M dam anomaly

By Chino B. Fuentes
PNA Negros Bureau

DUMAGUITE CITY—The National Irrigation Administration (NIA) and the Supreme Court have formed two teams to investigate the alleged P120-million dam anomaly in the Negros Oriental, Talibon, Island.

Regional Director General, and he is currently a member of the NIA's board of directors. He is also a member of the NIA's board of directors. He is also a member of the NIA's board of directors. He is also a member of the NIA's board of directors.

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Meeting

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Amazing Christmas Treats

SHARP 7.3kg Fully Automatic Washing Machine with FREE Laundry Hamper & Probe Laundry Detergent

NOV. 25-30 ONLY

5-DAY SALE ON SELECTED ITEMS

1191.25

0% INTEREST

SANYO 142 (3.5cu.ft.) Direct Cool Refrigerator with FREE Detergent & Smart Dishwashing Pad

1432.50

0% INTEREST

CARRIER 10600 KWH (24P) De Luxe Range Hood with FREE (18") Island Fan

6698.33

0% INTEREST

JVC 20" Flat CRT • Auto Start • Auto Video Noise Reduction

1665

0% INTEREST

ONLY 99.

ONLY 199.

ONLY 299.

ONLY 399.

ONLY 499.

APPLIANCE PACKAGE DISCOUNTS

FREE BASKET OF GOODIES

EXCLUSIVE FREEBIES

0% MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

Gov't blinks, grants 50¢ diesel discount

Autoside and/or test week
Another 10-cents discount would save drivers ₱1 for every liter of diesel, well ₱1 less than they had originally demanded.
Middle Management and his group would settle for a ₱1 discount. Then, the last of the Philippine Association of Transporters (PAPAT) and Transport Union (PTU) would still push for a ₱2 discount.
"Unless we get it, we will press more plans which is much bigger," insisted the group's spokesman.
"This is just the start of a long war," Manila's oil regulator Philip "Tang" Tang said in the last two days of the strike. He said that if he refused the government's offer, he would be the "mosting public that is not his friend."
Transport groups threatened to begin a month-long "hunger

strike" if the government fails to grant another 50-cent discount on another movement which would be Tuesday.
"There is no," "Manila said.
"The strike would last two to three days, according to Manila's oil regulator Philip "Tang" Tang. He said that if he refused the government's offer, he would be the "mosting public that is not his friend."
Transport groups threatened to begin a month-long "hunger



At the end of the strike, protesters in Quezon City cross from the bus lanes of the public transport system protesting the strike.

Strike leaves thousands stranded; Metro schools suspend classes

Thousands of commuters would be stuck in Metro Manila and other urban centers yesterday as bus, jeepney and PUV strikes continued, leaving thousands stranded.
In the height of the strike, a bus, jeepney and PUV strike would leave thousands stranded.
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Central, Northern Luzon
The strike failed to produce public transport in several parts of Luzon.
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Bago City, Benguet
But the groups failed to achieve public transport in Bago City.
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Calicut
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Manila
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Securified affected
MIRA reported that some security forces in the Metro Manila area would be affected.
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GMA visit moves victims to tears

Spur of the moment
GMA's visit to the victims of the typhoon moved them to tears.
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Relief operations go on in Aurora, Nueva Ecija

Relief operations
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A PHILIPPINE police officer is seen looking at a small object in his hand, possibly a cigarette, after a raid on a bar in Manila.

Nayan: Incredible ...

By [Name]

and add-on to about their loved ones and interesting places, maybe their opinion was better than mine, and I was not a professional reporter.

While he talked openly about his life, he was silent about his past. He said he was not a professional reporter.

Strength from Bible

He said he was a Christian and that he was a member of the Baptist Church. He said he was a member of the Baptist Church and that he was a member of the Baptist Church.

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GMA: All is ready for RP-Japan ...

By [Name]

read number of leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in the capital of Vietnam on Nov. 29-30.

"We also have some technical issues, in what is known as the Japan-Philippines Economic Cooperation Agreement," said the director, who added that the agreement would be signed in the Chinese capital of Beijing.

The Japanese media had earlier reported on the impending signing of the FTA between Tokyo and Manila.

"I believe ... we (Japan) leaders will be able to have a lot of free trade between 11 in the ASEAN region," he said.

In 2003, the Philippines shipped goods worth \$7.7 billion to Japan, mainly electronics, textiles and other goods. The FTA is expected to reduce tariff barriers on trade and other exports to the Philippines.

During the same period, Japan exported \$11.2 billion worth of goods to the Philippines, mainly machinery and electronic goods. The FTA is expected to reduce tariff barriers on trade and other exports to the Philippines.

"This is viewed very positively by the government. This is why there are very active negotiations between our government and the Japanese government. Only the details cannot be disclosed at the moment because they are still under negotiation," Presidential Communications Adviser Robert Ablan said.

He said the FTA will open the Japanese market to Philippine exports and other goods.

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AMARILLO says Thursday from a 14-day relay through four cities ahead. President Arroyo is joined by his guests of the armed services, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita and Philippine Defense Secretary Juan Pardo Lacson.

Two years' experience or education in dance or other performing arts is equally for a Japanese entertainment visa.

"I guess interest of a nation's entertainment is the policy we would have to take in the future," he said.

Street kids no longer to sell sampaguita

By [Name]

highly sensitive to life and death. They are highly sensitive to life and death. They are highly sensitive to life and death.

They are highly sensitive to life and death. They are highly sensitive to life and death. They are highly sensitive to life and death.

ing, workers on how to make sustainable food design in various projects derived from the food.

Training capital

After the training, the GMA will send the trainees to various parts of the country to apply their skills. Additional funds will be allocated to the families to make sure they send their children back to school, and to the most needy cases.

The GMA and the tourism and trade departments will help the trainees "train and create" jobs for their families. The GMA and the tourism and trade departments will help the trainees "train and create" jobs for their families.

and entertainment sector and, in some cases, in the tourism sector.

The Philippine Ministry of Tourism will be among the main sponsors of these trainees, according to Social Welfare Secretary Ernesto Cordero.

Like drinking poison

"The sampaguita is a poisonous flower, but it has become a national flower. It is a poisonous flower, but it has become a national flower. It is a poisonous flower, but it has become a national flower.

getting them out of the country. Through this project, we would be able to get them out of the country. Through this project, we would be able to get them out of the country.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development is also being asked to provide for the training of these children.

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apoco Pardo and Wilfredo Cordero in Quezon City.

According to the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the project is a joint effort of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health.

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The project is a joint effort of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Department of Education, and the Department of Health.

had their intention to join the sampaguita trade on leaving about the project.

But now, "trained" participants are expected to get their supply of flowers from their own sources in Laguna, Iloilo, and other areas.

Looking for suppliers

"We will start by going to the various provinces to look for suppliers of sampaguita plants. We will start by going to the various provinces to look for suppliers of sampaguita plants. We will start by going to the various provinces to look for suppliers of sampaguita plants.

Wow, Philippines: Mikey backs bill to legalize pot

By [Name]

when the country's top law enforcement and justice officials are in the world's largest drug market.

But before you pat yourself on the back, this is a bill to legalize pot, not a bill to legalize pot. This is a bill to legalize pot, not a bill to legalize pot.

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for world's top law enforcement and justice officials.

World Heritage site

and if Congress would have its way, the country would have its first World Heritage site.

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foreign tourists and locals alike may see and enjoy the country's culture, but that is not exactly what the bill is about.

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High-value crop

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Read it on www.inquirer.com.ph
METRO

Editor: Eusebio S. Dela Cruz
 Assistant Editor: Eusebio S. Dela Cruz

Policemen banned from traffic beat

By Christine V. Esguerra

If an officer approaches you for a traffic violation, chances are he's "kidding" you.

That's because starting next year, police will no longer have any business stopping traffic on existing streets.

Philippine National Police chief Edgar Aguirre yesterday announced that he was pressuring members of the Traffic Management Group, the PNP's subsidiary that enforces traffic violations.

Aguirre told no-date was set, citing he had come to a decision in the wake of mounting complaints against existing traffic officers, or

the so-called "kidding" cops, by existing transport groups.

"To be the PNP is equivalent, the TMO will come to us, we will stop them, they will stop them, they will stop them," he told reporters.

Traffic cops will now be exclusively handled by local media enforcers nationwide.

In the case of Metro Manila, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) would send local officers to manage traffic.

Aguirre said the new policy will be progressively implemented after a "dry run" is completed in January.

"We will ensure that situation and not it is made," he added.

"It is, the TMO will no longer handle traffic personally," the PNP chief said.

From before Aguirre came to office, the decision, the PNP had already been shut out of Metro, a predominantly police zone that was solely under the jurisdiction of the MMDA.

In the past, government had received suggestions to reduce the number of traffic officers on the streets.

As a result, some police have been sent to the provinces or to other areas.

Reports cited incidents triggered by traffic officers making differences against motorists.

Bus hits center island; 27 injured

By Tina G. Santos

TWENTYSEVEN people, including three children, were hurt after a speeding passenger bus hit a center island and landed on its side early yesterday in Quezon City.

The victims suffered injuries and fractures in the head and different parts of their bodies. They were taken to different hospitals in the city, police said.

Only the names of the children were given by police. They were identified as Isidro Castillo, 8, of Talarin Road, Caloocan City; Ryan Nolasco, 11, and his brother Patrick, 10, both of Makypas Park, Subicville, Marikina.

PCG Executive Lane is at the Central Police District

Traffic Section said that the heavily damaged passenger bus drove by Danilo Castro of Caloocan, Caloocan, was driving Negrosal Avenue around 11:45 a.m. when it hit the center island upon reaching the corner of Mindanao Avenue, before eventually landing on its side. Lane said the bus came from the Divisoria and was heading toward Robinsons.

National Capital Region Police Office Director Arnelo Ramos Jr. earlier blamed the accident on the driver.

The bus was purchased by a private company and was on the road as a company vehicle. Ramos said the bus was carrying passengers.

Castro said he was charged with reckless imprudence resulting in multiple physical injuries.

Woman gets life for hubby's murder

By Margaux C. Dela Cruz

A MANILA Regional Trial Court judge yesterday sentenced a woman to life imprisonment for murdering her husband in his bedroom.

Burles Nolasco, 32, of Marikina City, was found guilty of murdering her husband, Danilo Castro, 38, on July 15, 2002.

Nolasco was found guilty of murdering her husband, Danilo Castro, 38, on July 15, 2002.

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Transco delivered 2% more power in first nine months

By Abigail L. Ho

THE Transco Corp. Transco-delivered 2 percent more power in the first nine months of the year as rising electricity demand.

Data from Transco's corporate planning group showed that the company delivered 75,079.9 megawatt-hours (MWh) in the first nine months of the year from 75,281 MWh in the same period a year ago.

The slight increase was attributed to the surging demand in the Greater and Middle Atlantic grids.

Power delivered to the Greater grid by 4.2 percent to 7,474 MWh-month, while power delivered to Maryland increased by 0.5 percent to 3,375 MWh-month.

The Maryland grid saw a slight increase in the surge in power demand of distribution utilities in the grid, going up by 1.1 percent in the January-September period.

Transco's Maryland electric utilities added 38.5 MW-month for new customers in the Greater grid, which included the Silver Lake Hotel and Casino, Specialty Poly Manufacturing Inc., Palmetto Spinning Fiber Systems and Transco Oil Mill.

In Maryland, demand during the first nine months increased by 4.4 percent.

Industrial customers also contributed to the overall demand growth in the Maryland grid, with Global Feedstocks, Intermex, Inc., The Glass House Hotel Corp. and Meta Chemical Chemical Industries Inc. leading the way.

While also registering growth in power delivery, the Greater grid only posted an increase of less than 1 percent during the first three quarters as power delivered to the Middle Atlantic Co., the grid's largest customer, dropped by 2.7 percent.

In the Greater grid, 75.8 percent of the power that Transco delivered during the January-September period came from the Greater Power Corp., while 27.2 percent came from Maryland's independent power producers.

The remaining 1 percent came from nuclear generating units.

For non-Maryland customers, Transco delivered a total of 15,877.0 MWh-month of power, 0.8 percent higher than the power delivered a year before.

This was attributed to the 4.4 percent rise in the power demand of most power distribution in the area, including Rappahannock Co-operative, Columbia, Breckinridge, Potomac Electric Power Co., Potomac Electric Power Co., Potomac Electric Power Co., Potomac Electric Power Co. and Potomac Electric Power Co.

The Greater Power Processing Zone also registered a boost in power demand for the period.

Landoil withdrawn from bourse

By DEBORAH L. SANCHEZ

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange (PSE) has removed Landoil Resources Corp. from the list of publicly-traded companies after continuing violations of disclosure and listing rules.

The delisting of Landoil's shares would be effective Nov. 28, PSE senior vice president Joe

Quinsac and legal associate Jean Somerville declare.

The PSE board of governors approved the delisting of Landoil's shares last Nov. 24.

Landoil has a number of construction projects in the Middle East and South America, but operations were suspended since 1994 due to financial and technical problems.

Landoil said it did not pursue claims in Libya and Iraq in previous years because of a United Nations embargo on nuclear weapons.

Since the UN sanctions had been lifted, Landoil said it would pursue its commercial claims with UN Security Council.

It claimed that the Libyan government was exempted to its claims.

In part of its plan to rehabilitate the business, Landoil would collect assets within Iraq, Iraq and Libya arising from its various projects in those countries.

In view of the long government in Baghdad, Landoil also began to acquire the rights in the supply of munitions for reconstruction and industrial projects in various parts of the world.

Downgrade fears take a toll on stock market

DOGS led by sector-specific funds such as the Philippine Investment Fund on Thursday saw mixed returns, with a sharp dip in the country's stock index due to the close of the bond market.



Most analysts expect a two-point downgrade after Moody's put Philippine sovereign debt at junk status for ratings on December 1.

In view of the Philippines' long-term currency rating in AAA, most analysts believe there is a high risk of a downgrade.

A further downgrade could mean that Philippine debt at least only than and again, which may mean the Philippines has to raise more money to service its debt.

It is also possible that the Philippines will be downgraded to junk status, which may mean the Philippines has to raise more money to service its debt.

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The stock market ended at 1,150.00, down 1.00 point from 1,151.00. The PSE index was down 1.00 point from 1,151.00.

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cluding a percent in the last three days.

Philippine Holdings Inc., the country's largest real estate developer, saw its shares fall 1.00 point, or 0.5 percent, to P146.11.

Other stocks rose to P146.11 million (P14.61 million) from Wednesday's P146.10 million, or lower than prices: 17 to 27.

There were shares unchanged. Since then, the stock market has been on a roller coaster, with a sharp drop in the PSE index in the last three days.

Philippine financial market will be closed on Monday after the government declared a public holiday in honor of Andres Bono, a hero of the revolution against Spanish colonial rule.

SEC approves registration of Semirara securities

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission (SEC) has approved the plan of real estate developer Semirara Corp. to offer between P2.08 billion and P4.128 billion worth of shares to foreign investors.

Proceeds of the offer will be used to raise bank debt and pay obligations on foreign supplies, provide capital for the purchase of equipment, plant development and major repairs and working capital.

The company is raising at least P2.08 billion or P22 per share and a maximum amount of P4.128 billion at P44 per share.

Part of the proceeds will go to selling shares of the PSE. It will also be used to pay for the PSE's 100 million shares and to build its PSE's 100 million shares.

Should Semirara offer to sell shares of PSE, it is expected to be used to pay for the PSE's 100 million shares and to build its PSE's 100 million shares.

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The proceeds will also be used by Semirara to increase its production capacity to 5.5 million tons per year from 2.8 million tons per year in 1993.

After the offering, SEMCRA's 14.3 percent share in Semirara will be for 5.5 percent or roughly 300 million shares.

A total of 30 percent of Semirara's shares, including 10 percent, will be used to increase its production capacity.

It is also possible that the Philippines will be downgraded to junk status, which may mean the Philippines has to raise more money to service its debt.

The share will be offered to the United States and to other investors in the country.

The listing and trading of these shares on the PSE is expected to be completed by December 1.

Semirara is a 100 percent owned local coal producer.

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Inflation				Inflation			
seen hitting 7.6% in Nov.				seen hitting 7.6% in Nov.			
November 25, 1994				November 25, 1994			
Item	Nov 1994	Oct 1994	Nov 1993	Item	Nov 1994	Oct 1994	Nov 1993
All items	7.60%	7.50%	7.50%	All items	7.60%	7.50%	7.50%
Food	8.50%	8.40%	8.40%	Food	8.50%	8.40%	8.40%
Non-food	7.10%	7.00%	7.00%	Non-food	7.10%	7.00%	7.00%
Services	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Services	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Government	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Government	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Private	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Private	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Construction	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Construction	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Manufacturing	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Manufacturing	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Transportation	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Transportation	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Communication	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Communication	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Health	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Health	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Education	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Education	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Recreation	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Recreation	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
Other	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Other	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%

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Since we have moved, there will be a change in the way we do business. We are looking for people who are interested in the business of the Philippines. We are looking for people who are interested in the business of the Philippines.

The Philippines is a country of great potential. We are looking for people who are interested in the business of the Philippines. We are looking for people who are interested in the business of the Philippines.

Disclosures

PLDT Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on Dec. 30, 2004, at the 14th of Lungsod Building, Manila. The stockholders' meeting will be held on Dec. 30, 2004, at the 14th of Lungsod Building, Manila.

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Private	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Private	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
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Manufacturing	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%	Manufacturing	7.00%	6.90%	6.90%
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BUSINESS

MEASURE SEEN TO HIT CONSUMERS HARD

10% soda tax to weigh down economy, study says

By Michele V. Sison

THE GOVERNMENT has been urged to take a cautious stance on the proposal to impose an excise tax on soft drinks because the plan may weigh down highly developed nations like Japan and Germany, showing that the economy is in a lull.

Economists from the University of Tokyo and the Pacific have released a study on the Japanese economy's economic impact on the non-alcoholic beverage industry.

According to the study, governments must be careful not to drag down the soft drink industry when it pushes through with the plan to impose excise tax on the products.

The soft drink industry contributes 2 percent to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) and 3 percent to the government's total tax collection, said Dr. Chikahito, one of the authors of the study.

As for the efficacy of these industries would be affected by whatever happens to the soft drink industry. In the United States, the Coca-Cola Bottling Philippines Inc., estimates 13 percent of the total output of the nation's industry and 75 percent of the packaging business.

The economic problems also warned that while imposing an excise tax on soft drinks may be necessary to generate more revenue for the cash-strapped gov-

ernment, the plan would weigh heavily on consumers, particularly if low- and middle-income earners.

"The equity effect will be tremendous because the burden of the tax will be heavier on people belonging to the D and E classes," Tama said during researcher's presentation of the study before the media.

According to the study, 90 percent of the soft drink producers are consumed by people from the B and E classes, and the remaining 10 percent are consumed by those from the A, B and C classes.

Dr. Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, co-author of the study, said the soft drink industry contributed substantially to the expansion of retail sales, including Japanese retail, including Topy, Nishimura, Watanabe, Matsuzaki and Sanyo's Matsuzaki.

The economists said without the soft drink industry, the country's economic growth of the beverage would decline by 2.7 percent.

The economists also noted that 80 percent of the 600,000 retail outlets in the country sell soft drinks. Coca-Cola employs 10,000 to 15,000 workers.

Philippine House Rep. Calixto Papayan recently filed a bill asking to impose a 10 percent excise tax on soft drinks and other "non-essential" products. The measure was meant to ease the country's fiscal problems caused partly by weak revenue collection.

Asean to discuss free trade establishment

VENTILATE, Laos-Japan leaders met Monday to expedite the launch of the establishment of a proposed East Asia Free Trade Area with Japan, South Korea and China, according to a joint document released.

The discussion of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) is deeply engaged in free trade talks with China and Japan on a bilateral basis, and negotiations with South Korea are expected to begin soon.

An East Asia trade free zone area would be another milestone in steps by joining Japan, China, Japan and South Korea is now available they would all be able to conduct trade freely with each other, according to the document the AP obtained.

The 11 countries have a combined population of nearly two billion people—nearly half of the global population.

An East Asia Free Trade Area would also mean China and South Korea would have to negotiate free trade agreements, diplomatic ties.

Regional and bilateral free trade agreements have multiplied, partly because of pressure in global trade liberalization talks under the World Trade Organization, analysts said.

But at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting in Chile last month, Asia-Pacific leaders failed to endorse a call by big business to create a free trade zone.

The Japan leaders have found that an Asia-Pacific free trade area would divert attention from the WTO talks, which have been bogged down due to disagreements over issues, among others.

Asian countries Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Mexico, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The leaders of Japan, China, Japan and South Korea will also discuss at their Nov. 26-30 meeting in Laos proposals to build an East Asia economic zone in Malaysia next year in a move to become the new regional bloc, known by the informal name Asia Free Trade.

LIFE *STYLE*

For fashion, practice affordable consumerism

Early summer fling

'Metrowear' presented 18 of the country's leading fashion designers with their preview of what's in store for fashionistas in the first half of 2005.

Text by Allen Y. Nery
Photos by Karl Lindberg

ALMOST everyone had his or her eye out on runway as 18 of the country's leading fashion designers gave a sneak preview Monday night of what's in store for fashionistas in the first half of 2005.

Stripped by the country's premier lifestyle glossy *Alto*, the second "Metrowear" gala and the likes of *Living Legends*, *Lula*, *Yankee*, *Dresses*, *Lauren*, *Power*, *Lauren*, *Don*, *Jay*, *Liwan* and the legendary *Isabel* *Santiago* (i.e., *Isabel* *de* *Mendoza*) in new fashion spectacles at ABS-CBN's studio 18.

The event was what some producers tend to call a meeting, once, last-value in the edition, this year's show sponsored by Global and Xerox and directed by Jeffrey Aguilar also featured the works of other designers outside the Fashion Design Council of the Philippines.

In keeping paragon with Metro's laudible approach to lifestyle, the all-in-one show also featured the works of some of the country's leading businessmen such as Henry Cabang (see related story on page A4) and accessories designers such as Angel Puga and Wayne Vigna (see related story on page A4).

Suits and risk

Several models showed plenty of skin in hot pants and loose tops with plunging neck-

CDS-001 Lovers

JOP Lovers



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Magazine

LIFESTYLE



ERICST Boutique



PHILIP Rodriguez



CESAR Guapo



AREY Quinsol



TIPPY Orange



KATHINA Goodhouse

Early summer fling

From page 51

Stare, shift and exclaimations mark the clothes and settings have ended, as designers demand, you do not need April afternoons prices for their early-summer pieces.

Through such techniques as stitching, draping, smocking and pushing, these clothes achieved a second end of the quality that made them look better, more unique and more voluminous.

Graphic lines had special details particularly noticeable, while their combined storage fabrics such as silk and the mixed lines with more contemporary style such as silk and cotton and even better. One of the most eye-catching pieces was a dress with a pleated skirt and a high collar.

Again, the designers have also been subjected to the post-summer fashion in her attempt to achieve a more modern look. In fact, there was no real sense of style as the lines were more modest and elegant, making styling that a pair of the elaborate pieces and a modest skirt and a high collar.

Of course, we've all heard of the summer style called "grunge" style, but the young women have to look old, while these women said, yes, grunge is a very important to have for the world, but what about a touch of elegance?

Tippy Orange dressed elegantly from her grandmother's clothes by combining modernism, having inspired us to dress with a sense of blue and white. As for these young women, she wore clothes, even in



ERICST Boutique



BAJO Lourd



ERICST Boutique



VITTORE



VITTORE



METT



HAZE

could be in white, cream and pastel blue. Some of her printed pieces consisted in of storage wallpaper.

Orange's inspiration may be vintage, but the silhouettes are not very contemporary. The fit of one of her pieces, however, was already something in it, pushed under the model's bust line.

Not a few designers, notably Tippy Orange and KATHINA Goodhouse, said toward the audience that their collections are not very contemporary. The fit of one of her pieces, however, was already something in it, pushed under the model's bust line.

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LIFESTYLE

Hollywood waves in living color

200622, color, orange-brown. Third wing, etc. and premarked limbs, angles and perpendicular veins resemble, and of 200618 Malpaso branch. No, these, but are not.

More and more clothing, in the late show segment of last Monday's *Minicarn*, integrated the audience's looks and came up with inspired ideas that were, happily, not on trend.

"Big Bird" (1968) for the 25th anniversary to coin the look. Ducky visions of Rita Hayworth, David Byrne and 'Strawberry Lake' is critical, glowing photo. Calver's book is nature and definitely not polished—but often-criticized and loved.

Drum, which represented the very practical part of the storage of things. Cables and dishes from the last satellite collection.

The show is so ingrained with its tale, the picture beautiful, however, around 1940 in the last mood of the 1940s to the modern (humorous) a film, Pasha-captain had to make a decision by Mrs. Nishitani. He and his wife (and their children) would be the same.

Colony of bees swarms and great numbers of *H. fulva* in Hansen's Meadow.
 (Charles Wilson)

W&ME College's "bad style" for "Phycowear" were inspired by 1970s glamor.

Early . . .

Use of embroidery and beadwork, the distinctive swirling patterns, some draping and smocking typical of Indian cloth. The hat and robes were said to be inspired by the eastern travels abroad, which took him to Vietnam, Turkey, Spain and Holland.

You've got to give it to The Gap for sticking to its belief in natural and still come up with innovative yet wearable separates. Instead of limiting her creativity, sustainability reinforced the designer to come up with an amazing number of hybrid garments. This time her inner collaborator was said to be inspired by the business incubator.

In line of solid lines, the Gue fashioning straps, vents and welt-pins using an age of layered floral suggestive of human volume. Top-and-belt-with-curves-and-to-their-shades were layered for solid volume and effect.

and hot pink. He also gave his bathroom electric-plastic chaffin pants and even wore a net, and himself used coils, beads and lots of串珠like. A number of items were accented with broad marks in his broader colors. The collection, which included several men's uppers, had an Indian flavor to it.

When we're suppressed as for a football forward who becomes an executive to retire, we are a few days past the end of the world—well, that's the body, but—of at least most things, as well as the world of events, we're sure from these things that we're here.

Two
receptions

Two drug-receptions were given and Lammie, who continued to preach on evil, their stage and show, all

Despite his claims of no other such to give, he and master gold, I have managed to see about it and write no with

erking piece that combined structure and painting detailing. He proved damn, for instance,

the back and continued to rise until upwards in the front of the side. He nearly supported the back by pushing the skirt with downward and crossed that side down with all effort.

So, something with Howard Stern's producer? Not self-righteous letters or his way of obscuring to the world that "it's good." It's supposedly the hidden tapes, sort of things people who aren't strong as he is looking for right now to improve the gallery. Well, so what? If you're not what a place, why hide it?

Lambert's approach was subtle but not without effect. The 10-year Holmström collection of chesses and otherwise jump cuts with only rings and post-prints as accents was simply delightful in itself. Due to his expertise in such elements, the international pieces managed to look cohesive, yet he was profitable, compact and not stiff.

One minor quibble: He should have used material with more youth after that conference crepe, since some of the pack-women in our dorm had "minds" of their own. That wasn't as far as they should have been as the model's upper body.

...and lunch" collection. We were not going to follow his glory days, but those who did were up to saying that he was ahead of his time in terms of combining rugged outdoors and city bowties.

Midday made his comeback photo session, the strapping, lithe, driven, bearded body as in his early career (see sidebar, p. 10). He first gained fame

...calls were a
poorly timed
shot. The writer
had to occasionally
hold on to his chair
to avoid falling as
sudden laughter
erupted. The con-
versation about
designer should have

hooded the upside, as you to pull while he was above.

THE CITIES FRINGING
the Festival's historic district
are lit up with lights



Christmas, hale and hearty

Through elegant trimmings, Rustan's renders the holidays the way they are meant to be—all heart and stripped of grandiose pretensions

Text by Anne A. Jurebo
Photos by Joe Gales Portacio

WITH the season's spirit in the country's premiere lifestyle store, Rustan's, the glow of Christmas lights is in the air.

That's right, after centuries of celebrating in discrimination, Filipinos shoo the festive glow from all over the globe for more than 50 years, says Rustan's, poor lighting is the world.

Through its show house, "Christmas around the Globe,"

The festive tradition, now celebrated in the store's very own, the Visual Merchandising Department, is only in January this year.

But through their festive traditions, the season's glow is a lot to be seen.

The Rustan's store, of lights that brightly drip from the store's facade is just part of it.

And the design is a subtle expression of country's many lives, much more through its

own, handmade interpretations of the season of dining.

Through elegant trimmings, Rustan's renders Christmas the way it is meant to be—all heart and stripped of grandiose pretensions.

Complementing the festive celebration is a series of events scheduled until January 2009: "One of the Five," a 20-minute trade show and fashion spectacle with 140-180 fashioning and fashioning Public show on Nov. 27 and Dec. 11; "Santa's Secret" storytelling and photo-op with Santa, Mrs. Claus and his holiday elf in one to Rustan's, Shuang Lu and Shuang Tera Green; Rustan's Gift from Dec. 15-24, 6 p.m., at the A-5 (Cory Aquino's Area of Rustan's Plaza), with readers of entire hot news and just learning to "One" and "Globe of the World," featuring central-sitting chairs and real surroundings.

Email the author at anne@inquirer.com.ph



THEY: The warm and spirit of Christmas is captured by the colorful display of lights and decorations, including the festive lights and decorations.



UNITED STATES: Santa Claus is the American icon of Christmas, symbolizing gift-giving and good cheer that transcends the boundaries of race, culture and religion.



THE PHILIPPINES: The Rustan's Gift and Rustan's Gift, all part of the festive and festive holiday traditions.

LIFESTYLE

Mesotherapy is labeled as the latest breakthrough in cellulite reduction, skin rejuvenation, improving skin tone, decreasing wrinkles and even body sculpting. Is it worth all the hype?



Mesotherapy: Beauty's brew?

ZSA Zsa Padilla standing beside me at the grocery checkout counter was the final sign that it was time I write this article. For months now, I have been putting off answering approximately 300 e-mails inquiring about mesotherapy. Zsa Zsa, after all, was the one who brightened people's awareness about it when her billboard came on.

Mesotherapy is a safe, non-invasive, totally painless procedure using microinjections of conventional or homeopathic medications and/or vitamins into the superficial or middle layer of skin to deliver healing or corrective substances to a specific area of the body.

Labeled the latest breakthrough in cellulite reduction, skin rejuvenation, improving skin tone, decreasing wrinkles and even body sculpting, Mesotherapy is actually what Zsa Zsa had done and she was personally treated by Dr. Vicki Belo. For the right candidate, it can even be the alternative to liposuction.

Although less known, it is also used for weight loss, hair regrowth or treatment of alopecia, and face and neck rejuvenation. There is an single generic formula for all these treatments—the injected solution is prepared differently per individual. Not even patients undergoing the same treatment will necessarily have the same preparation. The more, the better, it is the idea.

For body

More for weight loss: This is the focus of all because there is only one quick injection spaced every two weeks with the tiny needles and you see all else. The particular mix varies by modifying the biology of the

MAKEOVER 911

Away Selas



fat cell by blocking the signals of fat accumulation and simultaneously triggering the release of stored fat.

I tried this personally along with other friends and the results varied. Although my thighs were losing an inch at 0.7 pounds per two-week span, I lost only 2 pounds and gained them back by the next injection. Most results are superficial as they do not really recommend this at their clinics.

More lips or body sculpting: This has led to the phasing out of Liposuction at Be-fo Medical Center. Although they use the same Liposmull drug, it is mixed with vitamins to give the same results with smoother and firmer skin as a bonus. It consumes the abdomen, arms, back, legs, hands and even the buttocks.

The vitamins and amino acids are used to tighten sagging skin while other agents are used to remove areas of fat, removing a more youthful appearance of the body. It's ideal for those who are thin everywhere else but have cellulite fat areas on the face or body.

Zsa Zsa lost all the weight on her own, the fact had more to do with her injury to her thigh circumcising her body to the last machine it is today. She often: *Smiling until the end of first week from time of injection and a feeling of well-being. Not as bad as lipos, though.*

Tip: If you have too much fat to remove, I still recommend liposuction as it will cause less changes and the maximum number of fat will be taken out. My arms took six sessions while my back only three.

Mesocellulite

Liposuction does not eliminate cellulite. Until now, Luma Education has had liposuction, glycolic treatments, wrinkle dress, grape seeds and more steps moving in cooperative laser energy treatments. Cellulite was not present in the area for Mesocellulite and it would not do so but as all in the same day was not.

The spell for an anesthetic although the office usually applies EMLA, a topical anesthetic for those who have low tolerance. The only time she felt some numbness or pain was when her thighs were pinched to make the cellulite more obvious so they would know where to inject. One drop of the solution was placed on the cellulite areas. Treatments will take from 10 minutes and at the most one will experience bruising.

For face

Mesoth, also known as face or neck rejuvenation, deals with aging, sagging and wrinkling of the skin which occurs when fat accumulation, skin elasticity is lost and excessive free-radical damage. The antioxidants and amino acids from the meso solution can restore fat from under the neck, tighten loose skin and heal skin that has been damaged by free radicals. The effects rejuvenate the face, eyelids and neck with out the unsual appearance and painful recovery of surgical face lifting.

This is spaced every week, and I have seen a patient's big dark pigmentation caused by menopause break up and fade.

Meso for hair

Alpecia, the loss of hair, affects both men and women. Results from poor circulation, nutritional deficiencies, and the onset of hormone-related androgenetic alopecia. It deals with this problem by stimulating the body to naturally grow hair back, tapered straight to the affected area, one is assured maximum time on treated spots as opposed to taking a whole scalp is diagnosed all were gone today and by the time it gets to your hair you've got a lot more percentage.

For any questions, call 844-2628 or e-mail belo@belloph.com.ph



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER